

## MINUTES ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Greenville, NC  
December 11, 2006

The Greenville City Council met in a regular meeting on the above date at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, third floor of City Hall, with Mayor Robert D. Parrott presiding. The meeting was called to order, followed by the invocation by Council Member Rose Glover and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The following were present.

Mayor Robert D. Parrott  
Mayor Pro-Tem Mildred A. Council  
Council Member Ray Craft  
Council Member Pat Dunn  
Council Member Rose H. Glover  
Council Member Chip Little  
Council Member Larry Spell  
Wayne Bowers, City Manager  
Wanda T. Elks, City Clerk  
David A. Holec, City Attorney

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Council Member Spell and seconded by Council Member Dunn to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

City Attorney Dave Holec recognized Dr. John Meredith, who chaired the Millennium Committee and who spearheaded the sundial project. Dr. Meredith is to be commended for this citizen initiated and implemented project. He asked Dr. Meredith to report on the project.

Dr. Meredith informed the Council that the project is completed and functional on the Town Common during daylight hours. He recognized the support and leadership of Tom Tysinger, Boyd Lee, Dave Holec and Wayne Bowers and the contributors, the West Memorial Fund, Wachovia Bank, Greenville Utilities Commission, the City of Greenville, C. A. Lewis Construction Company, Greenville Marble & Granite, The East Group and Adams Products. The sundial is an analemmatic sundial that is accurate to less than two minutes. The person standing on the sundial becomes part of it. It is one of the largest in North Carolina. The project dedication will be on Friday, December 15, at 2:00 p.m. on the Town Common. The motto is "Time is a destination".

Dr. Meredith recommended that the City create a new committee to be tasked with the development and display of art and sculpture within the City of Greenville. This committee could have an annual project, and it would enhance the City's culture as well as educate and enlighten the citizens. He further recommended a City of Greenville Science and Arts Council

like the one in Charlotte. He suggested creating a Science and Arts District that would enhance the downtown revitalization and development.

#### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Council Member Spell to approve all the items under the consent agenda as listed below. Motion carried unanimously.

- (1) Minutes from the October 23, 2006 Joint Greenville City Council/Washington City Council meeting, the October 30, 2006 Joint Greenville City Council/Pitt County Commissioners meeting, and the November 6 and November 9, 2006 City Council Meetings
- (2) Various tax refunds
 

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DCFS Trust	Prorate taxes on vehicle	\$105.61
Sheldon Jordan	Mobile home charged in the city limits in error	\$118.95
Sheldon Jordan	Vehicle charged in city limits in error	\$100.58
Lisa Horne Pendry	Prorate taxes on vehicle	\$104.72
Daniel Earl Robinson	Prorate taxes on vehicle	\$103.95
First Citizens Bank & Trust	Business personal property charged in error	\$493.92
- (3) Amendment to Board and Commission Policy
- (4) Purchase and donation of a computer and event controller for Greenville Public Access Television
- (5) Resolution accepting dedication of rights-of-way and easements for Cobblestone Subdivision, Phase Three, Section One (Resolution No. 06-51)
- (6) Resolution of support endorsing the Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant application for marketing brochures and signage associated with the City's bicycle and pedestrian system (Resolution No. 06-52)
- (7) Rejection of bids for the Colonial Heights Subdivision drainage improvement project
- (8) Resolution abandoning utility easements at Carolina East Mall (Resolution Nos. 06-53, 06-54, 06-55 and 06-56; Contract Nos. 1556, 1557, 1558 and 1559)

#### PRESENTATIONS BY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

##### Public Transportation and Parking Commission

Ms. Peg Gemperline, Chairman of the Public Transportation and Parking Commission, reminded the Council that the Commission is an advisory commission composed of seven members that reflect the diversity of Greenville. The Commission focuses on providing accessible and affordable parking in downtown and having a safe and dependable bus service. A public hearing was held on May 17, 2006 on the proposed fare increase. There were no public comments, and the Commission unanimously approved a fare increase from \$.75 to \$1 for regular fare, from \$.35 to \$.50 for reduced fare, and from \$1.50 to \$2 for paratransit fare. Commission Member Robert Thompson and Transit Manager Nancy Harrington attended a

conference dealing with transportation and accessibility which was held June 28, 2006 at Edgecombe Community College in Rocky Mount, NC, along with Pitt County Transportation Coordinator, Rebecca Clayton. The Commission unanimously approved Transit Division participation in, and \$200 financial support of, the Disability Resource Fair, held in October at the Monroe Conference Center on the campus of Pitt Community College. A GREAT bus was on display to demonstrate its accessibility features.

Ms. Gemperline continued by stating that Commission members asked for and received presentations about the Intermodal Transportation Center Feasibility Study in February from Mr. George Alexiou and Mr. Graham James of Martin/Alexiou/Bryson, PLLC; the Center City/West Greenville Revitalization Projects in June from Mr. Carl Rees; and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in September by Mr. Tom Tysinger. Commission members attended public meetings held by the consulting firm, Alexiou/Martin/Bryson, PLLC, while conducting their feasibility study on the Intermodal Transportation Center. The Commission held a special call meeting on February 27 for presentation of the feasibility study by consultants from Martin/Alexiou/Bryson, PLLC, and the feasibility study was accepted by the Commission. The Commission made a recommendation to City Council that it move forward with the next phase of development of an Intermodal Transportation Center. The Commission receives regular updates on the Regional Transit Feasibility Study from Mr. Tom Tysinger. This working group is studying the possible formation of a Public Transportation Authority.

Ms. Gemperline stated that the Transit Division participated in the Disability Resource Fair in October, as previously stated. Also, an introductory video advertising the GREAT bus system is being developed. Last year a member of the Commission suggested the City produce a video to advertise the GREAT bus system and to demonstrate the accessibility features of the buses. In 2006 Nancy Harrington followed up on this suggestion with the City's Public Information Officer, Steve Hawley. It will demonstrate the different features, showing people riding, wheelchair accessibility, bus routes, major points of interest, bike racks, etc. The Commission received a draft of the video script at its regular October meeting. Ms. Harrington appeared on the "Talk of the Town" cable TV show to discuss new route changes, and she also recently appeared on the new cable show, "City Scene" with Steve Hawley. The City web site has been updated with information about the current bus routes and schedules. Bus schedules written in Spanish were prepared and distributed. Free ride day was held on April 8. Two new buses, equipped with four surveillance cameras installed on each, arrived and were put into service.

Ms. Gemperline continued by stating that to date in 2006, total Great ridership has increased over last year by almost 13%, from 74,160 trips to 83,715 trips. The average number of passengers per day has increased from 745 to 839. The net cost per passenger has decreased by 8.4% from \$1.15 to \$1.06. The net cost per mile has decreased by 1.5% from \$1.30 to \$1.28. The Commission receives regular updates on the status of Pitt Area Transit System (PATS) and the Rural General Public bus service operated by Pitt County. PATS provides ADA Paratransit Service for GREAT.

Ms. Gemperline concluded by stating that members of the public do attend Commission meetings from time to time. In March a citizen attended to express her concerns about transportation needs in Greenville and the surrounding area, especially for elderly citizens. She also stated there should be more advertising about public transportation so that more people

would be aware of the system, and that the City should do more to promote GREAT. In May, Ms. Nancy Harrington was elected to the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Public Transportation Association (NCPTA) for a three-year term. Ms. Harrington keeps Commission members updated about NCPTA issues.

#### AGREEMENT WITH THE FERGUSON GROUP - APPROVED

City Manager Wayne Bowers stated that the City has been in a contract with The Ferguson Group since 2002. Last year, this was done in conjunction with Pitt County, which has chosen to not renew the contract this year. City staff is proposing that the City enter into a fifth year contract that will run from November 1, 2006 through October 31, 2007. The amount would be the same as the previous years, \$90,000, which is payable on a monthly basis. The City has established a good working relationship with The Ferguson Group.

Ms. Melissa Hyman of The Ferguson Group, stated that she has been meeting with department heads regarding their needs and trying to match that with possible funding. She has enjoyed working with the City of Greenville and looks forward to maintaining the relationship.

Mayor Parrott thanked Ms. Hyman and The Ferguson Group for what it has done for the City of Greenville.

Motion was made by Council Member Little and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Council to approve the proposed agreement with The Ferguson Group. Motion carried unanimously. (Contract No. 1215D)

#### RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE FINDINGS OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS INITIATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE AND ENCOURAGING THE NORTH CAROLINA LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ADOPT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS - ADOPTED

City Manager Bowers stated that the President of the North Carolina League of Municipalities has requested that each member municipality take a look at the new initiative that attempts to set new directions for the League.

After the showing of a video regarding the strategic directions initiative, Mayor Pro-Tem Council stated that the North Carolina League of Municipalities is a great resource to cities and towns in North Carolina that represents them well in and out of state. She stated that both Council Member Glover and she represent the North Carolina League of Municipalities on a national board. The North Carolina League of Municipalities is one of the strongest leagues in the nation.

City Manager Bowers stated that there is a vision survey in the packet that needs to be completed and returned. City Attorney Dave Holec is a member of the North Carolina League of Municipalities board.

Motion was made by Council Member Dunn and seconded by Council Member Craft to adopt the resolution endorsing the findings of the Strategic Directions Initiative Steering Committee

and encouraging the North Carolina League of Municipalities Board of Directors to adopt the Committee's recommendations. Motion carried unanimously. (Resolution No. 06-57)

APPLICATION FOR NORTH CAROLINA PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND  
GRANT FOR THE BRADFORD CREEK SOCCER COMPLEX - APPROVED

Mr. Boyd Lee, Director of Recreation and Parks, informed the Council that it is time to apply for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant. The City has been successful in receiving \$500,000 for the past three years for three different projects. If successful this year, staff would like to match the CIP funds to build restrooms, storage, etc. at the soccer fields.

Motion was made by Council Member Little and seconded by Council Member Spell to approve and support the application for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

AGREEMENT WITH GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION TO FUND SEWER  
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR HIGHWAY 33 EAST AREA - APPROVED

City Manager Bowers stated that this item involves sewer service along Tenth Street extension. Next year, the City will be working on the annexation of Riverhills subdivision. Sewer service in Riverhills is currently provided by a privately owned system operated by the original developer of the subdivision. The Riverhills collection system flows by gravity to a pump station, and then the sewage is pumped through a force main to a Greenville Utilities Commission owned line for transportation to the treatment plan. The pump station has been determined to be substandard by Greenville Utilities, and the estimated replacement cost is \$225,000. In June 2005, Greenville Utilities received a request from a group of developers to cost participate in a project to provide sanitary sewer to a 101-acre tract located on the north side of Highway 33 East near Riverhills. Providing sewer service to this property would involve constructing a new pump station and force main at an estimated cost of \$609,306. Greenville Utilities feels it would be better to look at a regional approach, which would open up the area for development and annexation. It is proposed to use a cost-sharing approach for the \$457,142 proposed budget for the new pump station and force main to Riverhills and \$365,000 for the gravity outfall line from Riverhills to the new pump station. The recommended funding arrangement to provide for the total estimated project costs of \$822,142 is: Greenville Utilities Commission--\$345,153; developers--\$274,047; and City--\$202,942. The City's contribution will require an appropriation of Capital Reserve funds. The taxes received would provide for a quick return on investment. The Greenville Utilities Commission board approved this at its last board meeting.

Upon questions being asked, City Manager Bowers responded that there will probably not be a hookup fee required of Riverhills residents when it is annexed because they already have a sewer connection; however, he is not sure. There is no precedent for this. This item is simply making a contribution to Greenville Utilities so that it can complete the sewer system. After Riverhills is annexed, the average customer's sewer bill will go down because the residents will be paying Greenville Utilities for actual usage as a City resident instead of paying a flat fee to the developer that operates the system.

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Council to approve a contribution of \$202,942 to Greenville Utilities Commission as the City's portion of the Highway 33 East area sewer infrastructure and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute the appropriate agreement with Greenville Utilities Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF POSITION RESTRUCTURING WITHIN THE GREENVILLE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT - APPROVED

Chief of Fire/Rescue Mike Burton informed the Council that there has been rapid growth with Stations 6, 7 and 8, along with a great deal of command staff turnover. The department has reached a hierarchical "choke point" at the Lieutenant level, and there is currently insufficient training staff. The department is quickly facing the position of having senior staff retiring within the next three to five years, and the department needs to position itself for change. Chief Burton presented a new organization structure that will provide more definitive lines of supervision and position the department more solidly as the organization grows. It refocuses some assignments to support safety and training, provides for more definitive lines of hierarchy, and will replace some current captain positions with Lieutenant positions through attrition. The vacant Fire Training and Development Coordinator will be replaced by a staff Battalion Chief position serving as the Safety and Training Chief. The current structure has six Lieutenants and 18 Captains. The choke point creates hierarchical problems. The training staff has remained the same and the staff has doubled. The restructuring goals proposed allow them to achieve a sound structure, support the chain of command, support safety and training, and position the department for future growth. It needs to realign the number and assignment of captains and lieutenants that can be supported by field training officers. He recommended upgrading the training position to a battalion chief, all with a phased in approach. There would be one position upgrade—the Fire Training and Development Coordinator would be upgraded to a Battalion Chief.

Chief Burton concluded by stating that the overall department size is not impacted by these changes. Attrition will be used to reduce the number of Captains from 18 to 9, and they are currently at 14; and the number of Lieutenants will be increased from six to twelve. The workforce will stay the same. The changes would be able to be handled with the existing budget. As attrition takes place with associated savings, the new plan can be implemented with subsequent phases. As funding permits, the Captain position will be added to safety and training, which may be two years. They have to physically increase the staffing for safety and training. The action requested of the Council is to approve the reclassification of the Fire Training and Development Coordinator Captain position to Safety and Training Battalion Chief and to authorize the Fire-Rescue Chief to execute other organizational changes through the approval of the City Manager.

Upon being asked how long it will take to get to nine captains through attrition, Chief Burton responded that it is estimated that it will take three years to get to nine.

Motion was made by Council Member Spell and seconded by Council Member Craft to approve the reclassification of the Fire Training and Development Coordinator Captain position to Safety

and Training Battalion Chief and authorize the Fire-Rescue Chief to execute other organizational changes through the approval of the City Manager. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE A FIRE PUMPER TRUCK AND WAIVE THE NORMAL BID PROCEDURE – APPROVED

Chief of Fire/Rescue Burton stated that the staff desires to purchase a fire truck without bids by piggybacking on the City of Raleigh. Triad Fire Inc. has agreed to extend to the City of Greenville the prices and terms set forth in its contract with the City of Raleigh. The purchase price of the fire pumper truck is \$357,545, and there is \$400,000 in this year's approved Capital Improvement Plan for a pumper and subsequent equipment. The Financial Services Department has reviewed the information and is comfortable with the dollar amount.

Motion was made by Council Member Little and seconded by Council Member Spell to approve the purchase of one Pierce<sup>TM</sup> Enforcer Pumper Fire Truck from Triad Fire Inc. for the purchase price of \$357,545 and waive the bid procedure pursuant to the North Carolina Statute 143-129(g). Motion carried unanimously.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF KINSTON FOR BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES – APPROVED

City Manager Bowers stated that this agreement with the City of Kinston utilizes the services of a qualified building inspector from the City of Kinston to conduct inspections on behalf of the City of Greenville. Demands for inspections services within the City of Kinston have dropped to levels below the capacity of their inspections staff. This arrangement allows the City of Kinston to maintain their staff during this slow time in construction activity and allows the City of Greenville an opportunity to better meet demands for inspection services. Staff would like to try this arrangement. It was approved by the Kinston City Council last month. Staff is prepared to start this early next year.

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Council Member Dunn to approve the interlocal agreement for supplemental services to be provided by the City of Kinston and authorize the City Manager to execute on the City's behalf. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF DECEMBER 14, 2006 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

The Council did a cursory review of the items on the December 14, 2006 City Council Meeting agenda.

Council Member Glover expressed how citizens are unclear as to the intent of the City Council regarding taking Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive all the way around US 264. In discussions with the City Attorney, it was suggested that a resolution be considered expressing the intent of the City Council to name the entire US 264. Council Member Glover asked that this be added to the December 14, 2006 City Council agenda.

Motion was made by Council Member Glover and seconded by Council Member Dunn to add to the December 14, 2006 City Council agenda as Item 2A "Resolution Expressing the Intent of the

City Council of the City of Greenville to Continue the Name of Martin Luther King, Jr. Highway on Portions of US 264 Bypass as the Portions are Constructed". Motion carried unanimously.

#### COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Little congratulated the Rose High School football team for winning its fourth consecutive State championship. The staff and players are to be commended. He also thanked the Chief of Police for properly escorting the bus carrying the team into Greenville.

Council Member Little thanked the Jaycees for a wonderful Christmas parade.

Council Member Spell echoed the congratulations expressed by Council Member Little. He also thanked the City staff and senior staff, who have been very helpful in his first year on the City Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Council stated that she just returned from the National League of Cities Conference in Reno and will have a report on Thursday. It was a wonderful conference and she was excited to represent Greenville. The Youth Council was well represented, with nine youth present. The chaperones did a good job.

Mayor Pro-Tem Council congratulated the AKAs for an exciting fashionetta. The winner was one of her 4-Hers. She thanked everyone who bought Christmas wreaths and the coupon books, which were the fundraisers for the 4-H club.

Council Member Craft extended congratulations to Rose High School. This was a great win for them and a tremendous reflection on the parents who have supported them. He also thanked Randy Cox, President of the Greenville Jaycees, for all the group does for this community.

Council Member Dunn stated that the Christmas parade was great. She congratulated the Citizen's Police Academy graduates and announced that the Police Department again received its national accreditation.

Council Member Dunn reported that Miss North Carolina came to Greenville Saturday night to help with Operation Santa Claus. Council Member Dunn thanked the Fire/Rescue Department, Police Department, and others who made this event a big success.

Council Member Dunn expressed thanks for having a full-time recycling program.

Council Member Glover reported that she has just returned from the National League of Cities Conference in Reno and is glad to be back in Greenville. It was a wonderful trip. She congratulated the youth, staff and volunteers who work with the youth, who really worked hard. They raised money so they could go and paid their entire way. The Youth Council had t-shirts with Greenville and their names printed on them. The Council is anxious to report to the Council on the trip. Council Member Glover thanked the parents who encouraged and supported them. She expressed that if there are other youth interested in serving, there are slots available. She also thanked the City Council for supporting the Youth Council and to Mayor Pro-Tem Council, who got the Youth Council started.



Mayor Pro-Tem Council stated that the Youth Council was a little disappointed because they wanted Greenville pins to pass out.

Mayor Pro-Tem Council asked that City Council send condolences to the family of Mayor Evonne Scarlet Golden (Daytona Beach) and the family of Ben Ruffin (special assistant to James Hunt in his first administration).

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Bowers had no items to report on.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Council Member Dunn and seconded by Council Member Glover to go into closed session which will be conducted in Room 337; at the conclusion of the closed session, if no action is to be taken, Council will return to open session in Room 337 and adjourn the meeting; if action is to be taken in open session, Council will return to the Council Chambers, return to open session and take the action prior to adjourning. The purposes of the closed session are to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, said law rendering the information as privileged or confidential being the Open Meetings Law to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. Motion carried unanimously.

#### RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Council to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Council Member Dunn and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Council to compensate the City Clerk, City Attorney and City Manager with a two percent salary increase effective with the pay period beginning January 6, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

#### ADJOURN

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Council Member Glover to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda T. Elks, MMC  
City Clerk